THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) to (c) The Government have taken several steps for the welfare and development of the workers in the unorganised sector. A large number of existing labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Equal Remuneration Act, the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act and the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act etc. are applicable on the workers in the unorganised sector. These look after their interests in terms of wages, working hours, social security etc. The Ministry of Labour are administering five Welfare Funds established by legislation to extend welfare and social security schemes in the fields of housing, educational, medical and recreational facilities for beedi, mine (limestone/dolomite, iron, manganese, chrome and mica) and cine workers. The expenditure incurred from these Funds during the last three years is as under:-

Name of the Fund	Actual expenditure		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (Rs. in lakhs)
Beedi Workers Welfare Fund	1661.76	2159.50	2523.77
Mica Workers Welfare Fund	191.49	203.21	226.83
Iron Ore Workers Welfare Fund	324.03	444.72	574.61
Lime Stone Workers Welfare Fund	295.96	275.65	322.59
Cine Workers Welfare Fund	4.55	9.20	7.43

A variety of rural development programmes like the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and National Social Assistance Scheme (NSAS) started recently etc., are being operated. Details of benefits provided under these schemes during the last three years are given below:-

Name of the scheme	Benefits provided	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)	No. of Families assisted	2215421	2089400	989631 (upto (Dec., 96)
Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY)	Employment generated (in lakh mandays)	9517.07	8958.25	2591.59 (upto Jan., 97)
Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)	No. of Women benefited	592026	697088	514223 (upto Jan., 97)
Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM)	No. of Youths trained	281874	301651	199668 (upto Feb. 1997)
Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)	Mandays generated (in lakhs)	2739.56	3465.27	1892.02 (upto Dec., 96)

During the VIIIth Plan, outlay for rural development has been raised from Rs. 10,650 crore to Rs. 30,000 crore. Outlay for animal husbandry, dairy & fisheries has also been substantially raised.

Agriculture and construction employ the largest number of workers in the unorganized sector. Two legislations namely the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 have been brought on the statute Book to regulate the working and service conditions of the construction workers and to provide for welfare measures to them. The legislation will benefit about 8.5 million construction workers.

Filling up of G.C.S. Posts

2175. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that G.C.S. posts are filled on inadequate circulation; arbitrary relaxation of cooling off pariod, part-time experience, qualification etc;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken so that experienced and qualified officer who never had a chance to be on deputation are selected and the system ensures transparency and equality of opportunity guaranteed under Article 16 of Constitution; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the G.C.S. officers are put to disadvantageous position due to a decade's delay in regular promotion as Under-Secretary and they deserve consideration for JAG post in G.C.S. based on their service as Section Officer for more than 13 years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) GCS posts are filled on regular basis by circulating the vacancies in the Employment News. The candidates are selected in accordance with the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Regular promotions to the grade of Under Secretary of CSS have not been made after 1986 Panel because of litigation over the dispute relating to inter-se-seniority of Direct Recruit and Promotee Section Officers.

As the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules have to be followed, all eligible persons fulfilling the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules, are given due consideration for JAG posts in GCS. In case of CSS officers also, the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules are being followed.

[English]

Completion of on-going Railway Projects

2176. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate funds are being provided by the Government for faster completion of the on-going projects of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay to complete these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Constraints of resources.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Projects	Funds provided in 96-97	Funds provided in 97-98	Remarks/Reasons for delay
	New Lines:			
1.	Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana	4.75	5.00	Land acquisition
2.	Mandar Hill-Rampurhat via Dumka	1.00	5.00	—
	Doubling			
3.	Sahibganj-new Farakka-Malda Town	1.00	1.00	Encroachment and flood damage
4.	Sonenagar-Mughalsarai-Third line	12.00	28.00	Limited availability of traffic/ power blocks/speed restrictions/non interlocked working due to over saturated section.
5.	Khana-Sainthia (Phase-I)	1.43	4.00	Court case by contractor in Calcutta High Court.
6.	Jhaptardal-Guskara (Phase-II)	1.00	4.00	Failure of Consecutive Contractors
7.	Chandanpur-Gurup-Third line	1.00	1.00	—
8.	Guskara-Bolpur (Phase-III)	1.73	4.50	—

Free Lance Artists

2177. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Free Lance Artists are also preparing programmes for Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;